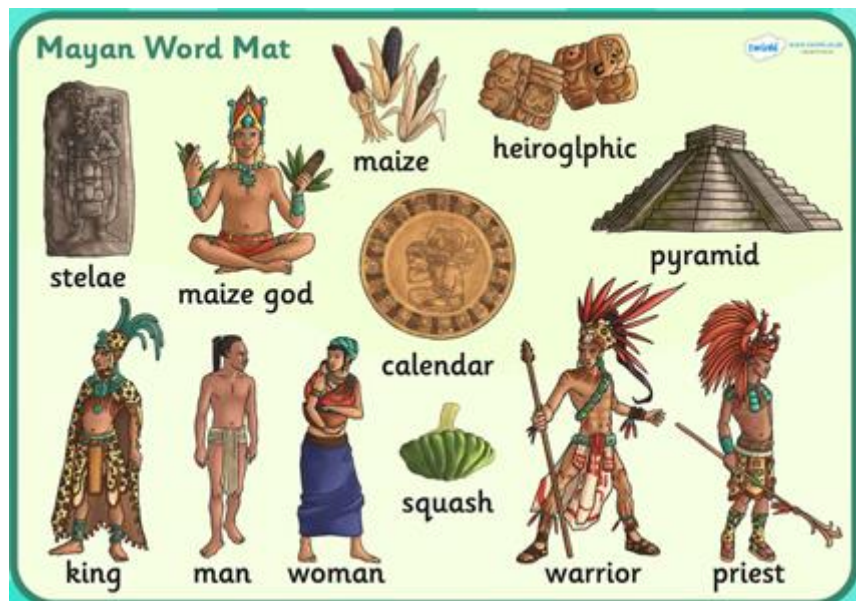


Y5/6 History: Amazing Mayans



Important questions to answer:



- Who were the Ancient Mayans and when did they live?
- What significant explorations and discoveries did the Ancient Mayans make?
- What role did religion and gods play in the Ancient Mayans' lives?
- Why were cities and architecture important to the Ancient Mayans?

Things we need to know:



- To know that the Mayans lived roughly between 1500BC and 900AD in Mesoamerica (Mexico and Central America)
- To know that the Mayan inventions and discoveries included astronomy, chocolate, law and order, maths, calendar and rubber
- To know that the Mayans were polytheistic who worshipped and made sacrifices to many gods, including a nature god, rain god, sun god and creator god.
- To know that pyramids, temples, palaces and homes were all built by, and important to, the Mayans

Why are we learning about Amazing Mayans



We are **building on previous learning** about ancient civilisations including Groovy Greeks, Baghdad & Egyptians (Year 3/4), Explorers and Chocolate (Year 1/2) and Planet Earth (Year 3/4 geography).

This new learning is important because they were a fascinating and forward-thinking society, who made important discoveries and inventions; these were particularly in the fields of mathematics, astronomy, architecture and the visual arts. Understanding an ancient society that is so different to our lives in 21st Century Great Britain broadens our horizons and helps us to understand, learn from and be tolerant of different people, beliefs and backgrounds.

This will help us get ready for future learning about ancient civilisations and other cultures. Our analysis of different sources and understanding of how their culture continues to shape ours will help us as we study history in KS3.

Experiences we will have:



- Design and make Mayan headdresses and chocolate bars

Skills we need to learn:



- I can **order** events on a timeline and **compare** them to other periods of history that I know about
- I can **discover** what explorations the Mayans made and **explain** how they continue to impact our lives today
- I can **explain** why religion and gods were important to the Mayans and how they impacted their lives
- I can **analyse** the importance of settlements, buildings and architecture to the Mayans

Subject Specific Vocabulary:



pok-a-tok	astronomy	monuments
hieroglyphs	cocoa	idol
agriculture	ritual	Mesoamerica
civilisation	lithography	plaza
temples	Chichen Itza	Cenote